

Intervention: Early childhood development programs

Finding: Sufficient evidence for effectiveness

Potential partners to undertake the intervention:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nonprofits or local coalitions | <input type="checkbox"/> Businesses or labor |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schools or universities | <input type="checkbox"/> Media |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Healthcare providers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local public health departments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State public health departments | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policymakers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals, clinics or managed care organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Background on the intervention:

Childhood development is a powerful determinant of health in adult life as indicated by the strong relationship between measures of educational attainment and adult disease. In particular, child development from birth to age five is critical for normal brain development and establishment of a foundation for adult cognitive and emotional functioning.

Findings from the Systematic Reviews:

Based on systematic reviews conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Task Force on Community Preventive Services, researchers strongly recommend publicly funded, center-based, comprehensive early childhood development programs for low-income children aged three to five years.

The basis for the recommendation is evidence of effectiveness in preventing developmental delay, assessed by improvements in grade retention and placement in special education. See the link below for more information about early childhood development intervention.

References:

[Guide to Community Preventive Services](http://www.thecommunityguide.org/social/default.htm) - <http://www.thecommunityguide.org/social/default.htm>